

ST. HELENS

On the greatest western waterway, the Columbia river, about 80 miles from the mouth, lies the little city of St. Helens. It was away back in the early fifties that the first settlement was made at this point and it was for many years one of the principal cities on the river. It was at that time considered to be a rival of Portland for metropolitan honors, and its location from an industrial and commercial point of view would warrant such a contention. But fate decreed otherwise; along with fate

our manufactured products to other parts of the world. Then came the crosscutting plant, one of the largest in the world, where all kinds of wood products are treated with creosote oil to prolong the life and enhance the usefulness of these products. Another big mill followed, the Columbia County mill, where now millions of feet of lumber are being saved out every year, finding its way to the markets of the world. With all of the timber industries working full time many more men were demanded in the woods to keep the supply of

of the reasons for more development in the city. Then came the locating of the farmers' cooperative creamery in the city, which has also added materially to the business importance of the city. Other industries are coming, and from present indications there is no possible way to prevent St. Helens from being what the early settlers predicted, one of the leading cities of Oregon. In fact, from an industrial standpoint it is already ranking away up towards the head of the list.

In all this rapid development of

have caused considerable favorable comment and many a stranger coming to St. Helens has been made to feel welcome as his automobile or other conveyance rounds the curve and sees the invitation of St. Helens to please feel perfectly at home.

Some years ago many of our public spirited citizens, realizing that St. Helens needed a park near the heart of the city, prevailed upon the city council to buy what was then known as Godfrey park, and the council bought it. It has been a good in-



WELCOME TO ST. HELENS



CITY PARK AT ST. HELENS



RESIDENCE OF L. R. RUTHERFORD

THE ST. HELENS WATER SYSTEM therefore, voted \$50,000 bonds and built the present system. Around more adequate or a purer supply of water than St. Helens. The city has purchased 160 acres of land, which prevents any pollution of the water, and since streams near Tronholm, a distance of eight miles. The system is owned by the city and its cost was slightly over \$50,000. The water is brought



RESIDENCE OF MISS AMY GEORGE

to St. Helens through a six-inch wooden main and distributed through the city in pipes from 2 inches to 6 inches in diameter. When St. Helens took on its big growth in the years 1908 and 1909, the water supply was totally inadequate. In former days a small dam had been built



RESIDENCE OF R. CONSTANTIN

about three miles from St. Helens on Milton creek, and the water for the town was furnished through a two-inch main. As more people came, and more industries located, the water consumption increased 1000 per cent, and it was necessary to build a new system. The town,



RESIDENCE OF MARION MORTON

CITY HALL, ST. HELENS



This building, erected several years ago, has quarters for the city recorder, treasurer and a council

ing the desire of some of the early property owners to get rich quick and by such methods driving population away. However, the location was such that it was a certainty that some time there would be located on the banks of the great Columbia at a point where the deep water of the Willamette slough joined the larger body of water in the river, a city of considerable commercial importance. In many years the little town "held its own" in the way of development, which is meant it did not advance. Eventually a sawmill was built and a little life was injected into the community, only to be lost when a fire destroyed the mill and left the millsite vacant for many years.

Finally in 1908 the McCormick interests of California began to look around for a site upon which to locate a mill, and after considerable investigation of sites offered, St. Helens was selected. Negotiations were made for the mill site where had stood the old mill of former days, and mill construction commenced. From the very day the first spade was stuck in the ground by the McCormick people St. Helens has been taking on new life. The old town start-

logs up, and railroads were built to bring the timber in. Everything was busy and is getting better all the time.

The stone quarries are turning out hundreds and thousands of tons of crushed rock, and a short time ago many men were engaged in the manufacture of stone paving blocks, but this particular branch of the stone business has not been very active for a few years. However, hopes are entertained that soon this industry will be thriving again.

With the advent of all these industries employing hundreds of men, the city had to grow. There were not enough houses for people to live in, and during the past few years hundreds of good residences have been built, many of them being among the best homes in the state. With the increase of population the business houses of the city began to multiply until every class of business necessary for the convenience and comfort of the inhabitants was represented.

In 1914 the thriving little city of Houlton voted to join hands with St. Helens and its large sister received her with open arms. The towns were in reality one and sepa-

the past few years nothing has been of the temporary or boom character. Every business is founded upon solid footing; every industry is past the experimental stage and is permanently located; working men are paying for their homes and are fast becoming land owners; business is good in all lines and the city is prosperous.

Here is also located the court house, this being the county seat of Columbia county. The court house is built on the banks of the Columbia river, overlooking the country around the city and across into the fertile region of Lewis river, Washington. St. Helens has all modern conveniences and transportation to Portland and other points is provided by rail, steamboat and automobile.

Another industry of considerable importance is the salmon fisheries. Several hundred tons of the famous Columbia River salmon are caught and marketed in St. Helens each year during the season, thereby furnishing employment to quite a respectable army of men and bringing into the city quite a large sum of money each year.

There is room for several other manufacturing enterprises in St. Hel-

vestment right from the start. The late Charles Muckle built for the city a band stand and from time to time other improvements have been added which makes the park most attractive. The celebrations on the Glorious Fourth are usually held in this park and many of the lodge and association picnics and assemblies are held here. There are numerous lunch tables, seats and swings for the youngsters. It is planned to further improve this park, which will then become more popular with all who live in and visit St. Helens.

ST. HELENS A CITY OF BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCES

No town in Oregon the size of St. Helens has so many beautiful residences as our own little city. Many of our inhabitants, realizing that St. Helens was a good town in which to live and either establishing businesses here or securing employment, decided to become permanent residents of this thriving little city. The cuts of the beautiful residences which are shown on the several pages of this edition show the faith our own people have in their own home town and also that they believe an invest-



BIRDS-EYE VIEW OF THE CITY OF ST. HELENS

to grow and to be something in the way of importance to the manufacturing and shipping world. Hundreds of people located here where jobs were being offered at the mill, and many homes were built. It seemed that almost over night the little old sleeping town was transformed into a live, bustling city with the wheels of progress turning at a rapid rate. Not many months after the big mill had been established and the shipping of lumber became the greatest industry of the city, other enterprises were demanded. In these enterprises the Charles R. McCormick Company always took the lead. In addition to the big mill in the city, they planned and constructed the shipyards, the pioneer yards of the Columbia, where already many vessels have been built and where now several hundred men are busy building ships with which to ship

rated by only an imaginary line. The citizens of both places now work in common for the advancement of the entire community. Houlton had the railroad station and St. Helens the waterfront, and by the consolidation both towns have rail and sail facilities to all parts of the world. The consolidation of Houlton with St. Helens also added some 400 people to the population of St. Helens.

To keep pace with the growth of the city in all these lines, the schools were enlarged; churches became active; social life increased and business prospered. From a little city of about 400 people in 1909 to a city of 2,600 to 2,800 people in 1916 is the record of St. Helens.

Last year there was established a fruit and vegetable cannery business in the city which has been successfully operated under the management of L. Rosasco and has been one

ena, some choice deep water sites being available and transportation facilities being of the very best, it is only reasonable to predict that the growth of the past few years will be duplicated in an equal length of time in the immediate future.

St. Helens is now on the map and will keep on expanding and growing. Everything is in its favor and there can be no reason for delay.

As you come into St. Helens from either north or south, an arch across the roadway tells you that you are "Welcome to St. Helens." As you leave the city, on the reverse side of the same arches you will note the fact that St. Helens appreciates your having come here and wishes to see you again, for the parting message of St. Helens to anyone passing under these arches is "Goodbye—Call Again." These welcome arches

ment in St. Helens is one that will yield good returns from year to year. The Mist is proud of the showing the city makes, proud of those who have shown their confidence in the city by making large investments, and invites other investors to come to St. Helens. There is plenty of room for factories and other enterprises which employ labor and furnish a pay-roll. Investigate the opportunities offered in St. Helens before locating your industry elsewhere.

St. Helens has an accredited high school that offers every inducement for the student to prepare himself for college. The very best and latest system is employed and it is in strict keeping with the state course of study. Near the building is a play shed, and the district owns the land on which is located the field for football, basketball and baseball.



RESIDENCE OF A. L. STONE



RESIDENCE OF DR. A. J. PEEL